Report on the First Kyujanggak Korean Studies Summer Workshop

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REPORT ON THE FIRST KYUJANGGAK KOREAN STUDIES SUMMER WORKSHOP

June 25 - July 8, 2007
Seoul, South Korea

Hana Kim
University of Toronto

Introduction

The first annual Kyujanggak Korean Studies Summer Workshop was held from June 25 through July 8 at Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea. Twenty-two graduate students and junior scholars in Korean Studies from the United States, Canada, Ethiopia, Vietnam and Bulgaria had an opportunity to learn about current research in the field, and about a variety of primary sources related to Korean Studies that are available at Seoul National University and throughout Korea (See Appendix 1 for list of participants).

These 22 attendees were selected by the Kyujanggak Institute for Korean Studies after reviewing their applications. I was fortunate enough to receive a scholarship for the registration fees from the Institute.

The workshop program was designed for these purposes:

a) To allow participants to gain a broad overview regarding various aspects of Korean Studies;
b) To increase the usage and value of resources, manuscripts and artifacts related to Korean Studies in Korea;
c) To learn of and share the latest research in Korean Studies, both in Korea and abroad;
d) To serve as a place for intellectual and interpersonal networking and exchange.¹

It included lectures, seminars, hands-on research workshops, cultural performances, field trips and exploration of resource archives and cultural relics. (See Appendix 2 for the detailed schedule).

This report summarizes the first Kyujanggak Korean Studies Summer Workshop under the following two categories of activities:

Part I. Lectures, seminars, hands-on research workshops
Part II. Cultural performances and field trips

Part I. Lectures, Seminars, Hands-on Research Workshops

Morning Lectures: “Methodologies of Korean Studies”
Morning lectures focused on Korean resources and documents and their method of use. Professors addressed the types and the efficient use of texts, manuscripts, and information resources that form the basis of Korean Studies research.

Afternoon Seminars: “Current Issues in Korean Studies”
During the afternoon seminars, professors and workshop participants had intense discussions on the progress of the latest research and issues in each field of Korean Studies.

June 25
History of the Chosŏn Dynasty
Prof. In-Geol Kim (Dept. of Korean History)

June 26
Pre-modern Korean Literature
Prof. Byung-Sul Jung (Dept. of Korean Language and Literature)

June 28
Intellectual History of Korea
Prof. Young Min Kim (Dept. of Political Science)

June 29
Current Research Trends and Newly Declassified Resources in Modern Korean History: Focusing on the Rhee and Park Eras
Prof. Tae-Gyun Park (Graduate School of International Studies)

July 2
Colonial Korea
Prof. Keunsik Jung (Dept. of Sociology)

July 3
Current Issues and Research Trends in Modern and Contemporary Korean Art
Prof. Hyung-Min Chung (Dept. of Oriental Painting)

July 4
Korean Intellectual History: Focusing on Buddhist Thought and History
Prof. Eun-su Cho (Dept. of Philosophy)

July 5
History of Science and Technology in Korea
Prof. Jong-tae Lim (School of Chemistry; Interdisciplinary Program in History and Philosophy of Science)

Part II. Cultural Performances and Field Trips

Cultural Performances

June 28
This workshop presented a special and delightful opportunity for the appreciation of Korean dance. Prof. Young-hae Han, a sociologist teaching at the Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University, performed in front of the participants and then taught us basic dance moves through instruction in its key terminologies, allowing participants a richer enjoyment of Korean dance. Hyo-jin Kang, a Korean fiddle player, appeared as a guest musician.

Field Trips

The field trips and exploration of resource archives and cultural relics allowed us to master the use of the resource archives and cultural artifacts through the prepared course pack. Participants were then privileged to visit a number of those sites.

June 25
Kyujanggak, Seoul National University (http://kyujanggak.snu.ac.kr/index.jsp)

The history of the Kyujanggak Royal Library begins with its establishment in 1776 by King Chŏngjo, the twenty-second king of the Chosŏn dynasty, in the rear garden of Ch'angdŏk Palace. Being founded at the height of Chosŏn culture, it enjoyed enormous privileges bestowed by the founding King, but its role experienced ups and downs in the Chosŏn government until the end of the dynasty. From the colonial period to the Korean War, the Kyujanggak shared with the Korean people both the glories and trials of Korean history. Throughout this entire period, however, the Kyujanggak's collections have continued to expand and now include books, documents, maps, and printing blocks numbering over 260,000 items,
including National Treasures (6 titles consisting of 7,076 volumes) and Treasures (8 titles consisting of 28 volumes).²

June 26
**Museum, Seoul National University** ([http://www.snum.org/](http://www.snum.org/))

It originally opened alongside the university in 1946 under the name “The Seoul National University Museum Annex.” The original 2-story Tongsung-dong building, which was erected in 1941, had served as the Kyŏngsŏng Imperial University Museum until it was transferred intact to Seoul National University. When the museum was moved to the sixth floor of the Central Library, in 1975, it was renamed the Seoul National University Museum. In 1993, the museum was then moved to newly constructed facilities next to the Tongwŏn Building, which it has occupied to this day.³

June 27

Currently, KOFA is a sub-organization of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The non-profit KOFA was originally established on January 18, 1974 for the purpose of collecting and preserving Korean film, but was reorganized on June 10, 2002 as a government-affiliated public foundation.

It is the sole national-level organization that collects and preserves moving image materials as part of the Korean cultural heritage, as a mirror of the historical and cultural values of the time.

In addition, the Archive runs a specialized film library equipped with various film-related materials serving as the center of Korea’s film culture, and is in the process of creating user-friendly infrastructure to provide easier digital access to film-related information.⁴


The Academy was founded by the Korean Government in 1978 with the purpose of establishing in-depth research on the essence of Korean culture. To achieve this aim, it has devoted itself to identifying and interpreting traditional Korean culture, defining the academic identity of Korean Studies, and cultivating able scholars with global perspectives and values.⁵

**National Institute of Korean History (NIKH)** ([http://kuksa.nhcc.go.kr/front/index.jsp](http://kuksa.nhcc.go.kr/front/index.jsp))

It is a governmental organization responsible for investigating, collecting, and compiling historical materials. Since its foundation in March 1946, the NIKH has published over one thousand volumes of historical materials including the Veritable Records of the Chosŏn dynasty and the Diaries of the Royal Secretariat [of the Chosŏn dynasty]. It also collects various materials such as old books, documents and materials discovered overseas to assist scholars and students in their research and studies.

June 28
**Commemorative Tablet and Institutions, Seoul National University**

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June 30
Ch’angdŏk Palace ([http://www.cdg.go.kr/](http://www.cdg.go.kr/))

In the early 15th century, King T’aehjong ordered the construction of a new palace at an auspicious site. A Bureau of Palace Construction was set up to create this complex, consisting of a number of official and residential buildings set in a garden that was cleverly adapted to the uneven topography of the 58-hectare site. The result is an exceptional example of East Asian palace architecture and design, blending harmoniously with the surrounding landscape. The palace was added to UNESCO’s World Heritage list in 1997.

July 2
Central Library, Seoul National University ([http://library.snu.ac.kr/index.jsp](http://library.snu.ac.kr/index.jsp))

The library was first opened in 1946 as the Seoul National University Central Library, inheriting its facilities and books from Kyŏngsŏng University. In 1949, the name of the library was changed to the Seoul National University Library Annex. When the main branch of the library was relocated to the Kwanak Campus in January of 1975, it was renamed the Seoul National University Library, and then renamed again in 1992 the Seoul National University Central Library. The total collection of the library is currently over 2.6 million volumes.

July 3

It was founded by chairman Chang-sŏp Yun, in 1982, who contributed a large collection of antiquities and a significant amount of its basic funding. The museum has four exhibition galleries, one special exhibition gallery, three storage areas, one library, a coffee lounge, and a souvenir shop. It contains more than 10,000 pieces of Korean art including more than 3,000 earthenwares, 1,100 celadons, 2,100 porcelains, 500 punchongs, 2,000 paintings and books, 400 works of metal art and 700 other items. Among these, 44 items are designated as National Cultural Properties (8 National Treasures and 36 Treasures) as of January 2000. The Horim Museum is recognized as one of the top three major private museums in Korea in terms of the quality and variety of its rare cultural assets.

July 4
Museum of Art (MoA), Seoul National University ([http://snumoa.org/](http://snumoa.org/))

The MoA is the first university art museum in Korea dedicated exclusively to modern and contemporary art. Designed by world-recognized architect Rem Koolhaas, the museum was constructed and donated by the Samsung Cultural Foundation. The MoA was completed in October 2005, and having already attained the status of majestic campus landmark, is now open to the public. The Museum holds collections spanning 50 years in the evolution of Korean modern art.

July 5
Institute for Unification Studies, Seoul National University ([http://tongil.snu.ac.kr/](http://tongil.snu.ac.kr/))

The Institute was established to cultivate the intellectual ability geared towards the unification of the two Koreas, recognizing reunification as one of the most important issues for South Korea, and to conduct integrative and multidisciplinary research on various issues involved in the process of unification. It aims

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to contribute to laying foundations for unification studies by supervising and coordinating all research projects regarding Korean unification at Seoul National University, and by building a network for unification with other organizations in South Korea and abroad.\(^\text{10}\)

July 6
The Independence Hall of Korea (http://www.independence.or.kr/)

The Independence Hall of Korea is a place dedicated to the display of Korean history from past to present, focusing on the independence movements of the Japanese colonial period.

To offer a better understanding of Korea’s cultural heritage and to enrich the knowledge and patriotism of the Korean people, this Independence Hall encompasses the full range of Korean history. It is devoted to collecting, preserving, exhibiting, studying and researching materials and resources on Korean history, and visitors may learn the wisdom of Korea’s ancestors in overcoming a national crisis.\(^\text{11}\)

National Archives and Records Service (http://www.archives.go.kr/)

The National Archive is an agency of the South Korean government in charge of preserving government-produced articles and records. It is headquartered in Taejŏn’s Government Complex and also has offices in Seoul and Pusan.\(^\text{12}\)

Haein-sa (http://www.haeinsa.or.kr/home.html)

Haein-sa is a thousand year-old monastery which is located in the Kaya Mountains, Hapch’ŏn-gun, Kyŏngsang-namdo. It is one of the ten Avatamsaka School temples of Korea, and was built during the Shilla Dynasty with the intention of enhancing and expanding the Avatamsaka School of Buddhism.

Haein-sa is the temple in which the Tripitaka Koreana is enshrined. The Tripitaka Koreana is the integration of the Korean people’s Buddhist faith.\(^\text{13}\)

July 7
Center for the Advancement of Korean Studies (http://www.koreastudy.or.kr/index.jsp)

The Center was established in 1995 as a non-profit foundation of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, aiming at the promotion of Korean culture through the general and systematic research of the country’s endangered traditional culture. It is located in Andong, which has been an international center of Confucian culture since the Chosŏn dynasty.\(^\text{14}\)

July 8
Tosan Sŏwŏn

Tosan Sŏwŏn is the largest and most famous of all Confucian academies in South Korea. The first buildings on the site were established in 1561 by Yi Hwang, one of the great Korean Neo-Confucian scholars. The academy served two functions: as a memorial shrine to Yi Hwang, and a place where his disciples could


perform important ceremonies in his honor, and it also served as a place where the teachings of Yi Hwang were passed along to succeeding generations of disciples.\textsuperscript{15}

**Andong Hahoe Village** (http://www.hahoe.or.kr/)

Hahoe Village is located on a beautiful riverside in the Municipality of Andong in northern part of North Kyŏngsang Province. In Korean, this village is called Hahoe Maŭl or Muldori-dong (meaning “river circle village”), because it is nestled along a bend of Naktong River, which flows around the village in an “S” shape. Its physical location alongside the river is reflective of the philosophy of yin and yang. Many believe the village speaks to the heart of this thought; the river bends dynamically like a yin and yang circle with the five elements of eastern philosophy tree, fire, earth, air and water in harmony.

Hahoe village and cultural properties in the village are given due care under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Property in Korea. This includes conservation and maintenance in ‘original form.’\textsuperscript{16}

**Concluding Remarks**

The Kyujanggak Korean Studies Summer Workshop program provided me with an enormous amount of information. Indeed, it was an invaluable program that has enriched the participants’ knowledge of and experience in Korean studies, incorporating current research in the field, numerous primary sources, and direct contact with Korean culture.

Although this workshop was designed for graduate students and junior scholars, it was certainly useful to a librarian like me because it covered a variety of different subjects in Korean Studies. I made the suggestion to the organizers of the Workshop (See Appendix 3 for list of faculty and staff members) and to Chang-mu Yi, President of Seoul National University, that the Kyujanggak Institute should encourage professionals such as librarians, archivists or curators to participate in the workshop, or should create a similar program especially for those professionals.

Participants benefited from the experience of learning and exchanging information, forming new relationships, and renewing or changing their perspectives.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Kyujanggak Institute for Korean Studies for organizing such a wonderful workshop program.

As one of participants, I sincerely hope that this type of program will continue in the future.


Participants and several staff from the Kyujanggak and the National Institute of Korean History on June 27, 2007

Appendix 1: List of Workshop Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Aleksandra Avramova</td>
<td>M.A. Student</td>
<td>Hongik University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Hana Kim</td>
<td>Korean Studies Librarian</td>
<td>University of Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Regina Lee</td>
<td>M.A. Student</td>
<td>University of Montreal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Si Nae Park</td>
<td>Ph.D. Student</td>
<td>University of British Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Yuding Wang</td>
<td>M.A. Student</td>
<td>Seoul National University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Bethel Ghebru</td>
<td>M.A. Student</td>
<td>KyungHee University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Inje O</td>
<td>M.A. Student</td>
<td>Ritsumeikan University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Kumiko Mineo</td>
<td>M.A. Student</td>
<td>Hitotsubashi University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Mayuko Mori</td>
<td>M.A. Student</td>
<td>The University of Tokyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>Alice Soojin Kim</td>
<td>Ph.D. Student</td>
<td>University of California, Berkeley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>Aniko Varga</td>
<td>Ph.D. Student</td>
<td>University of Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>Bonnie Tilland</td>
<td>Ph.D. Student</td>
<td>University of Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>Emily Anderson</td>
<td>M.A. Student</td>
<td>University of Texas at Austin</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Appendix 2: Detailed Schedule

<First Week>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June 25</th>
<th>June 26</th>
<th>June 27</th>
<th>June 28</th>
<th>June 29</th>
<th>June 30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:50</td>
<td>Methodology 1</td>
<td>Methodology 2</td>
<td>Visit to: Korea Film Archive</td>
<td>Methodology 3</td>
<td>Methodology 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-11:50</td>
<td>Visit to: Kyujanggak</td>
<td>Visit to: SNU Museum</td>
<td>- National Institute of Korean History</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-2:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Seminar 3</td>
<td>Seminar 4</td>
<td>Free Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-3:30</td>
<td>Seminar 1</td>
<td>Seminar 2</td>
<td>Visit to: - Academy of Korean Studies</td>
<td>Visit to: - Commemorative Tablet &amp; Institutions of SNU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-5:30</td>
<td>Visit to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00-7:00</td>
<td>Welcome Reception</td>
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<td>7:00-8:00</td>
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<Second Week>

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<tr>
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<th>July 4</th>
<th>July 5</th>
<th>July 6, 7, 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:50</td>
<td>Methodology 5</td>
<td>Methodology 6</td>
<td>Methodology 7</td>
<td>Methodology 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-11:50</td>
<td>Visit to: SNU Central Library</td>
<td>Visit to: Horim Museum</td>
<td>Visit to: SNU Museum of Art</td>
<td>Visit to: SNU Institute for Unification Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-2:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-3:30</td>
<td>Seminar 5</td>
<td>Seminar 7</td>
<td>Seminar 6</td>
<td>Seminar 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-5:30</td>
<td>Visit to:</td>
<td>Visit to:</td>
<td>Visit to:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SNU Central Library</td>
<td>Horim Museum</td>
<td>SNU Museum of Art</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 3: Faculty and Staff Members

Program Director:
Yung Sik Kim, Director of the Kyujanggak Institute for Korean Studies (Professor of History of Science)

Program Executive Co-Directors:
Eun-su Cho, Head of the Division of Education and Exchange (Professor of Buddhist Philosophy)
Keunsik Jung, Head of the Division of Research and Planning (Professor of Sociology)

Faculty (in alphabetical order)
Prof. Eun-su Cho (Dept. of Philosophy): Korean Buddhist Thought and History
Prof. Hyung-Min Chung (Dept. of Oriental Paintings): Korean Art History
Prof. Byung-Sul Jung (Dept. of Korean Language and Literature): Pre-modern Korean Literature
Prof. Keunsik Jung (Dept. of Sociology): Colonial Korea
Prof. In-Geol Kim (Dept. of Korean History): History of the Chosŏn Dynasty
Prof. Young Min Kim (Dept. of Political Science): Intellectual History of Korea
Prof. Jong Tae Lim (Dept. of Chemistry): History of Science and Technology in Korea
Prof. Tae-Gyun Park (Graduate School of International Studies; Korean Studies): Korean Modern History

Administrative Staff
Ms. Okhyun Kim
Mr. Won-seok Lee
Mr. Ki-seok Kwon